

## NATIONAL LEAGUE OF POSTMASTERS IN CONVENTION HERE



Photo by Foster.

## POSTMASTERS WILL MEET TAFT MONDAY

President Makes Engagement to Receive Petition as to Civil Service Extension.

CONVENTION ENDS TO-DAY

Barry Re-Elected President—Virginia Forms Branch—Loving Cup for Allan.

A message was received yesterday by C. A. Stillings, granting his request for an appointment with President Taft in Washington Monday. When the telegram was read to the National League of Postmasters in convention yesterday afternoon it produced prolonged cheers for the President. Every member of the league was of the opinion that it presaged success for the effort under way to have an executive order issued placing all fourth-class postmasters on the civil service list.

The petition requesting this action on the part of President Taft will be presented to him at 1 P. M. Monday by a delegation composed of the officers of the National League of Postmasters, the legislative committee and Mr. Stillings. It is also planned to have a large number of delegates stop in Washington on their return journey in order to visit the White House.

The petition, which will be signed by more than 30,000 fourth-class postmasters, will request the extension of the civil service to all fourth-class post-offices. The offices of fourteen States have already been classified by an order from President Roosevelt in 1908. These States lie east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio, and the movement now on is to give the benefit of this reform to the South and West.

Want Summer Holiday.

Other matters which the convention will call to the attention of the Post-Office Department will be taken up to-day, when the committee on postal recommendations makes its report. It is understood that this report, besides stating the case for civil service reform in trenchant terms, will ask the department to compel all postmasters to attend the State meetings of the Postmasters' League. The term, "Schools for Instruction," will be applied to such meetings. The committee will recommend the salary basis for the payment of fourth-class postmasters, instead of the present system, whereby compensation is given in proportion to the amount of cancellations at any given office.

The committee will recommend that postmasters be allowed thirty days' leave of absence each year, with full pay. Other government employees receive that time, and the postmasters feel themselves entitled to a like con-

## President Taft Will Meet Them

Executive Office, Beverly, Mass. Charles A. Stillings, Richmond, Va.: The President will be glad to see you and your committee at Washington at 1 P. M. Monday, September 23.

(Signed) RANDOLPH FOSTER, Assistant Secretary to the President.

consideration. A bonding department for the purpose of bonding all government employees will be recommended. Allowances for light and heat in fourth-class offices will also be urged. These recommendations, embodied in the report of the committee on postal recommendations, will be read to the convention this morning and doubtless adopted without alteration. Acting Chairman W. O. Beck and the remaining members of the committee held a final meeting last night to consider these matters.

Barry Again President. Officers were elected at the afternoon session yesterday. One of the important steps taken at the morning session was the organization of a Virginia State League of Postmasters. This organization is now an established entity, with officers and executive committee and eighty members. G. G. Thomson, chief clerk to Postmaster-General Hitchcock, made an informal address to the convention yesterday afternoon, confining his words chiefly to the parcels post system, soon to be inaugurated.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Charles O. Barry, Walker, Iowa; first vice-president, E. E. Cummings, New Woodstock, N. Y.; second vice-president, McH. Webb, Simpsonville, Ky.; third vice-president, Miss Nellie V. Flitt, Springfield, Ohio; secretary, Charles C. Young, Oakwood, Ill.; treasurer, H. H. Luebeck, Keene, Texas.

The executive committee is composed of the president, the first vice-president, the secretary and two members elected by the league. Frank W. Krutz, of Waveland, Ind., and J. S. McKinley, of Orient, Ohio, were unanimously re-elected to this committee.

Virginia Branch. The Virginia branch of the league was organized with eighty members and officers were elected as follows: President, H. G. Gore, Fort Mitchell; vice-president, F. S. Twist, Egerton; secretary-treasurer, W. L. English, Isle of Wight.

Members of the executive committee—A. L. Woolfolk, Cuckoo, and S. H. Smith, Gum Springs.

Miss Sadie A. Smith, of Amelia Court-house, and S. H. Smith, of Gum Springs,

were selected delegates to the next national convention.

Parcels Post.

G. G. Thomson, chief clerk to Postmaster-General Hitchcock, spoke to the convention immediately after the election of officers. He brought greetings from his chief, and expressed regret that Mr. Hitchcock was not present. He then opened a general discussion relating to methods of handling the parcels post system which will be inaugurated on January 1. Mr. Thomson's remarks, while uttered at different times, and interspersed with suggestions and questions from the floor, showed the magnitude of the task before the Post-Office Department. Judging from his attitude, the officials in Washington are still in the dark as to the manner of handling the new class of mail.

Wanted Information.

All sorts of questions were put to Mr. Thomson. They related chiefly to the rural carrier and the parcels post, showing clearly that in rural sections lies the crux of the new system. "What are rural carriers going to do about packages of butter and eggs?" asked one member from the floor.

"Yes, especially when it is muddy during the winter months, and the roads are impassable for buggies. How are the carriers to take up such packages on horseback?" asked another.

To all inquiries, Mr. Thomson made no answer, maintaining a silence that showed that he appreciated the proposition in a socratic manner. He was after information, he said.

It was brought out that the Post-Office Department has been authorized to increase the salary of rural carriers by about \$100 a year. The carriers realize, if the statements of postmasters yesterday count for anything, that this increase is intended to cover the cost of additional equipment in the form of buggies and wagons that the handling of parcels will necessitate.

Mr. Thomson stated that parcels addressed to small towns would probably be sent by slow trains, stopping at all points. In order that the contents might not be disturbed by being thrown from a moving train. He also added that all rural carriers will be equipped with scales for weighing packages, a map and a postal guide. The two last mentioned items are intended to aid the carrier in determining the zones of charges which will be established when the system goes into effect.

The question of eggs and butter was left undecided at the close of his talk. Mr. Thomson said that the department would hardly provide refrigerator cars.

Loving Cup for Allan.

Last night after a meeting of the officers, the delegates and their wives were entertained at a buffet-supper in the banquet hall on the ninth floor of the Richmond Hotel. Preceding the supper, the Folk Miller Quartet gave a performance, and following it a dance.

During the evening, a beautiful silver loving cup, twelve inches high, was presented to Postmaster Edgar Allan, Jr., as an expression of appreciation on the part of the visitors for his hearty welcome and enter-

tainment. The cup was presented by W. S. Bartholemew, of Aven, Minn. On it were engraved the names of the recipient, and of the league, with the dates of the meeting. A silk American flag was folded about the cup. To-day will see the adjournment of the convention. Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General P. V. Degraw and Chief Inspector Robert S. Sharp will arrive from Washington this morning and will address the meeting. The address of C. A. Stillings, editor of the Postmaster's Advocate, scheduled for yesterday was postponed and will be delivered this morning.

Cincinnati, San Antonio, Texas, and Guthrie, Okla., are in the race for the next session of the convention. The meeting place will be decided on this afternoon.

## TATE ASSAULTED BY SETH TAYLOR

Former Preacher Felled in Street After Sentence Is Suspended Again.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Danville, Va., September 20.—The sentence of fourteen months in the penitentiary, which was given to D. P. Tate, the former Methodist minister, at the June term of the Corporation Court for obtaining money under false pretenses was suspended for the second time to-day. When the case was called Tate was there, but his counsel asked for fresh suspension upon the grounds that Governor Mann now has before him a petition asking for Tate's pardon. This petition alleges that Tate was convicted on a technicality and that he intended no wrong-doing.

Judge R. W. Peatross allowed the suspension until Monday next, by which time it is expected that the governor will or will not pardon the convicted man. Tate was released on \$1,000 bond. W. E. Hurd being security.

Hardly had Tate left the courthouse before he was assaulted by a white cotton mill hand named Seth Taylor, while both men were walking down Craghead Street after an altercation regarding a previous money transaction. It seems that Taylor was walking away from the courthouse and began a conversation. Taylor, it is alleged, asked Tate when he was going to pay him some money, adding that if he could pay others he could pay him, too.

Tate retorted sharply and Taylor struck him and felled him. Taylor, then caught hold of Tate's throat, choking him severely and striking him in the mouth bringing blood. An officer finally separated them, and Taylor was summoned to appear before the Police Court to-morrow. Tate was not seriously injured and was able to proceed down the street.

The jury in the Mort murder case was discharged this afternoon, after almost twenty-four hours, unable to reach a verdict. The jury is said to have stood four for first degree murder and the remaining eight for second.

Roy Sullivan, the convict guard slayer, who is in Chatham awaiting trial for the murder of John C. Howard, will be tried on September 23, the case being postponed until that date in order that a material witness for the defense may be present.

AMUSEMENTS.

Academy of Music—To-night and to-morrow, "The Rose Maid." Bijou Theatre—To-night and to-morrow, "The Rose Maid." Grand Opera House—To-night and to-morrow, "The Rose Maid." Colonial Theatre—To-night and to-morrow, "The Rose Maid." Empire Theatre—To-night and to-morrow, "The Rose Maid."

"The Rose Maid," a Winner. There is that something about "The Rose Maid" which Werba and Luecker sent to the Academy last night for a two days' engagement, including a matinee to-day, which almost defies criticism. One listens to the music, admires the dances, glories in the sets, grows ecstatic over the good looks of the chorus, and has nothing but praise for the principals, and leaves with a very positive impression that neither the librettist, the writer of the music, nor the composer of the lyrics has achieved greatness. It is purely a musical comedy, more comedy than musical, but it furnishes about the best evening's entertainment which has come this way in many seasons. Not in a class with "The Chocolate Soldier," it surpasses in music and fun "The Merry Widow," "Dr. De Luzzo," "Alma," and other of the lighter and frothier contemporary operas.

The women are young, the costumes are new, the scenery is pleasing to the eye, and the voices manage to carry all of the music Bruno Granichstedt has composed. There is never a dull moment, nothing lags and the audience has a jolly good time. More strange is the fact that there is a very positive story running throughout the action of the opera and the story is sustained to the very end.

Pearl Barti, just about the prettiest thing extant in skirts, is the prima donna. As "Daphne, the Rose Maid," she entrances and holds. Her voice—a cute little thing it is—is not taxed too heavily, and in her song: "Roses Bloom for Lovers," she makes every single member of the male contingent wish that he might be a lover, and even the gentler sex sends up a sigh for the apparent forlorn love of the guffaw comic. The duke lover, Prince Hilda Van Lahn (Mifred Florence), and she loves his money. Sir John Portman (James Francis), the rich uncle, visits the nephew and finds out his profligacy. He announces that he is wedded and has an heir which cuts off his nephew from any inheritance.

Exit love of the fair princess. From the salon at Barchester House, in London, the scene shifts to Ostend, where are gathered numerous American heiresses looking for titled, under the chaperonage of Countess Bertrand (Jeannette Bagard). The Rose Girl, disguised as an heiress, wins the love of the duke and the uncle, admitting his duplicity and his still single state of blessedness, agrees to give his fortune to his nephew provided he will marry the Rose Girl. Naturally, the duke does both because of the infatuation and the intrinsic worth of the all-ance.

Jeannette Bagard is clever and good looking. She is not called upon to display a voice, and doesn't. The bulk of the musical efforts fall upon Pearl Barti and Henry Cote. They measure up to the requirements. An orchestra, augmented by eight musicians, under the direction of A. M. Langstaff, furnishes a fine and a large company, well trained, especially the chorus, makes it far above the average production in every way, a production worth the patronage of the theatre-going public. The matinee to-day and the performance to-night closes the engagement.

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## News of Petersburg

James-Dispatch Bureau.  
5 Bollingbrook Street.  
(Telephone 1485).

Petersburg, Va., September 20.—Miss Amelia McCoy, aged seventeen years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McCoy, died suddenly this morning about 8 o'clock, at the home of her parents on South Street. She was employed as an operator at the Petersburg Telephone Exchange. Surviving her are her parents, seven sisters and a brother, all of this city. The family came to Petersburg about nine months ago from Allegheny, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The burial will be in Blandford Cemetery.

Struck by Stray Ball.

Yesterday afternoon while sitting on the back porch of her residence on Halifax Street, Mrs. L. M. Ridout was struck in the forehead by a ball, supposed to have been fired from a 22-calibre air rifle. The ball buried itself under the skin and had to be removed by a physician. Though moved by a physician. Though not seriously injured, it has not been ascertained by whom the shot was fired.

Etrick Arsoned.

Late in the night several nights ago, the people of Etrick were aroused by the frequent ringing of the bell in the tower of the old dismantled cotton factory, the sounds of which had not before been heard in a long time. The old factory tower is practically the only part of the building left intact. The citizens of the village, excited by curiosity, left their homes in large numbers to solve the mystery of the bell-ringing. Some of them climbed upward to the tower to learn

## OPENING OF SESSION AT MARION FEMALE COLLEGE

Interesting Exercises Held in Recently Completed Building.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Marion, Va., September 20.—Interesting exercises attended the re-opening of Marion Female College, in the splendid new building yesterday morning. The exercises were opened with the singing of the hymn, "Come thou Almighty King," after which a devout prayer was offered by Dr. J. J. Scherer, now more than four score years old, and the founder, and for years, the honored president of this institution, as the secretary and assistant, James White Sheffer, the chairman of the building committee, gave an account of the work of the committee and formally turned the building over to the board of trustees, which, through its chairman, Rev. J. B. Greiner, turned it over to the President, Rev. J. P. Miller.

Mr. Sheffer, for the committee, reported that \$6,000 more than in sight was necessary to complete the work under contract, and complete the equipment necessary and which has already been purchased. The building is a handsome structure, and is pronounced in all of its appointments the equal of any school buildings in the State. During the exercises, Dr. T. O. Teistoor, of Roanoke, delivered an interesting address on the work of Marion Female College for the past forty years, and education in general.

He referred in a happy manner to the great work done by Dr. Scherer in connection with this school for the cause of Christian Education. He also said great stress upon the importance of parents sending their children to schools where Christian principles were instilled into the life and character of the student.

The faculty of this school for the present year is as follows: Rev. J. P. Miller, Mental and Moral Science, and Bible history. Rev. H. E. Kern, German, Church Liturgy and Church Music; Miss Alpha Fraunfelder, of Ohio, Preceptor, Latin and higher mathematics; Miss Ida DeLoache, of Washington, D. C., French and History; Miss Louise Edwards, of Baltimore, English, Expression and Physical Culture; Miss May Scherer, of Marion, the secretary and assistant in Mathematics; Miss Marguerite Ruggles, of Boston, instructress in piano and violin; Mrs. Sallie Webster, of North Carolina, housekeeper.

Marion graded school is now in full swing, with an attendance of something more than 400, and an excellent faculty, consisting of the Principal, Professor East, of Leesburg; Miss Janet Galt, of Marion, Va.; Mrs. Charles Pruner, also of Marion; Miss Lucy Lynn, from near Richmond; Miss Estelle Leyden, of Evinston; Miss Francis Sadler, of Fluvanna County; Miss Conway, of Spotsylvania County; and Mrs. R. G. Gossely and Miss Kate Brewster, of Marion.

the cause. The mystery was finally explained by the discovery that some fun-loving boys had attached a long wire to the bell and were ringing it from a distance. They had their fun and it has not been discovered who they were.

Illuminating Central Park. The city is installing fifteen large additional incandescent lights in Central Park for the better illumination of that favorite resort. The lights are so distributed that the entire grounds will be brightly illuminated.

Personal and General. Announcement is made of the marriage of J. H. P. Leigh, formerly of Petersburg, and Miss Mary Atkinson, daughter of Mrs. Kittle O. Atkinson, of Chase City, Va. Mr. Leigh has many relatives and friends in this city.

The handsome addition to the Petersburg Savings and Insurance Company's building, is nearly completed. It will be occupied by the insurance department of the company. It is most conveniently arranged for business purposes and will be handsomely furnished. On the upper floor are eight office apartments.

During the recent storm the barn of Frank Kynak, of the Bohemian Colony, in Prince George County, was blown down. A mule valued at \$200 was crushed to death.

## Every Sunday IN September C.O. Seaside Outings

Round \$1.50 Trip

Every Sunday TO OLD POINT, BUCKROO, OCEAN VIEW, NORFOLK AND VIRGINIA BEACH.

3-Fast Trains—3 Shortest, quickest and best route to the seaside, giving three hours longer at Ocean View than via any other route. Three fast trains every Sunday 8:30 A. M., 9 A. M. and 12 M.

Remarkable Christmas Present

Among the curious Christmas presents of this year will be one for a man of national reputation, which has been all year in the making.

Just last January the present was decided upon, and a friend of the prominent gentleman requested the Burrelle Press Clipping Bureau, of New York, to watch every paper in America and to take up every item which appeared concerning the man.

The clipping bureau people followed instructions, and now present the history of a year in the life of this special man.

The history ends just after election, and the 20,642 newspaper items found include everything from a three-line editorial mention to full-page illustrated stories. These have been mounted on 1,200 great sheets of Irish linen paper and bound into three massive volumes.

At the head of each item is the name and date of paper clipped from, this information having been put in with a book typewriter. The words thus inserted amount to 133,252.

In actual time, a very striking record of the unique orders which get into the Burrelle Bureau, for the extent to which clippings are used by individuals and by business concerns seems to be remarkable.

There are many people in private as well as in public life who need press clippings and don't know it. It might be well for them to look up this man Burrelle, who is said to be so well known that a letter simply addressed "Burrelle, New York," will reach him with no delay.

## Last Day On Which You Can Buy ANY SUIT FOR ONLY \$15

Take your choice of all the fine summer suitings left. Coat and Trousers made to order in new September styles. WHETHER THEY WERE PRICED AT \$35 OR \$40; WHETHER THEY WERE MARKED \$25 OR \$30.

15

BIGGEST OFFER EVER MADE IN THIS CITY

\$20 SUITINGS TO GO FOR \$10

\$8, \$7 and \$6 Trousers Selling for \$3.50

SALE  
ENDS  
T-NIGHT

It's going to be the biggest day's selling of the year. Get in line early. Plenty of salesmen to wait on you. Careful attention, expert measurement. WE GUARANTEE TO FIT YOU.

LAST  
CALL  
ORDER TO-DAY

Tailors and Importers Morton C. Stout & Co. 714 East Main Street